

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 NIC-01 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01 RSR-01 EB-11

OMB-01 TRSE-00 /119 W

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O R 231425Z JUL 73

FM USINT CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3455

INFO: RUEHDT/USMISSION USUN NIACT IMMEDIATE 2110

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 CAIRO 2193

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT EG

SUBJECT: REVOLUTION DAY SPEECH BY SADAT

1. IN JULY 23 REVOLUTION DAY SPEECH TO ASU CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND PEOPLES ASSEMBLY, SADAT REACTED WITH CONSIDERABLE EMOTION AND ANGER TO USG TACTICS AT SECURITY COUNCIL. SADAT CALLED SCALI MESSAGE TO ZAYYAT AN ULTIMATUM AND COMPARED IT TO ALLEGED ULTIMATUM FROM PRESIDENT JOHNSON TO NASSER IN 1965 ON SIZE OF EGYPTIAN ARMED FORCES. SADAT SAID USG FIRST ATTEMPTED TO HAVE DEBATE TERMINATED AND, WHEN THIS DID NOT WORK, TOLD ZAYYAT THAT ANYTHING OTHER THAN SPECIFIC DRAFT USG HAD IN MIND WOULD BE VETOED. SADAT SAID THIS REFLECTED CONCEIT AND ARROGANCE

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ON PART OF USG. HE SAID EGYPT DID NOT FEAR AMERICAN

VETO AND REJECTED ITS ULTIMATUM. USG POSITION PROVES THAT AMERICA IS AGAINST PEACE AND SUPPORTS AGGRESSION ECONOMICALLY, POLITICALLY AND IN EVERY OTHER FORM. EGYPT WOULD ADHERE TO ITS RIGHTS EVEN IF UNITED STATES CASTS VETO, AND THERE IS 90 PERCENT PROBABILITY THAT USG WILL DO SO. WHEN SECURITY COUNCIL RESUMES JULY 24, ZAYYAT WILL BE INSTRUCTED TO ADHERE TO EGYPTIAN RIGHTS AND WHOEVER WANTS TO VETO MAY DO SO. EGYPTIANS WANT WORLD TO KNOW WHERE EVERYONE STANDS.

2. SADAT THEN REVIEWED HISTORY OF SETTLEMENT EFFORTS SINCE 1967 AND MADE REFERENCE TO JARRING MEMORANDUM WHICH HE SAID USG SUPPORTED AT THE TIME, BUT NOW THREATENS TO CAST VETO IF IT IS MENTIONED IN A RESOLUTION. USG POSITION PROVES, HE SAID, THAT AMERICAN POLICY HAS CHANGED AND IS NOW DIRECTED AT PRESERVING THE CEASEFIRE IN ORDER TO GIVE ISRAEL TIME TO ABSORB OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND CREATE FAIT ACCOMPLI OF ANNEXATION OF ARAB LANDS.

3. SADAT EXPLICITLY REJECTED US PROPOSAL FOR PROXIMITY TALKS. HE SAID THIRD COUNTRIES HAD SUGGESTED TO EGYPT THAT THEY SHOULD PURSUE USG PROXIMITY TALKS PROPOSAL. HE THEREFORE CALLED FOR SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING IN ORDER TO MAKE CLEAR TO WORLD THAT BASIC ISSUE IS NOT OPENING OF CANAL, BUT LIBERATION OF ARAB LAND, WHICH IS NOW OCCUPIED BY "GANGSTER IN MIDDLE EAST AND BEING SUPPORTED BY BIG GANGSTER, THE UNITED STATES." SADAT ALSO SAID HE COMPLETELY REJECTS THE IDEA OF NEGOTIATING WITH ISRAEL SINCE THIS WOULD MEAN ONLY THAT ISRAELIS WOULD TELL EGYPTIANS HOW MUCH OF EGYPT'S LAND THEY WERE GOING TO TAKE.

4. SADAT THEN SAID HE PREPARING IN THREE AREAS FOR CONFRONTATION WITH ISRAEL AND US: ONE, INTRINSIC POWER OF EGYPT; SECOND, POTENTIAL OF ARAB WORLD; AND THIRD, SOVIET SUPPORT. IN SPELLING OUT FIRST TWO POINTS, SADAT TOOK STANDARD LINE ON NECESSITY FOR MOBILIZING RESOURCES AND NEED FOR GREATER ARAB COOPERATION, INCLUDING COOPERATION IN EXERTING ECONOMIC PRESSURE ON

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UNITED STATES BY EXPLOITING USG NEED FOR MIDDLE EAST OIL AND STABLE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY ARRANGEMENTS. HE MADE REFERENCE TO UNITY WITH LIBYA AND PREDICTED IT WOULD COME ABOUT IN PROPER STEP-BY-STEP FASHION. ON QUESTION OF SOVIET SUPPORT, SADAT PLAYED DOWN DIFFERENCES WITH SOVIET UNION AND SAID THAT EGYPT NEEDED SOVIET UNION AS A FRIEND EVEN THOUGH TWO PARTIES DID NOT SEE EYE TO EYE ON ALL ISSUES. HE SAID HAFEZ

ISMAIL HAD OBTAINED ASSURANCE FROM BREZHNEV OF CONTINUED SOVIET SUPPORT FOR LIBERATION OF THE LAND. US/USSR DETENTE HAD NOT AFFECTED SOVIET POSITION ON THIS ISSUE. SADAT ADMITTED SOVIETS WERE NOT GIVING EGYPT ALL OF THE MILITARY SUPPORT THAT EGYPT DESIRED, BUT SAID THAT EGYPT DID NOT WISH TO LOSE THE SOVIET UNION AS A FRIEND.

5. AT END OF SPEECH SADAT ASKED RHETORICAL QUESTION OF WHY EGYPT HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO ACHIEVE ITS OBJECTIVE OF RECOVERING ITS TERRITORY OVER THE PAST SIX YEARS. HE THEN OPINED THAT CIRCUMSTANCES AROUND EGYPT HAVE CHANGED AND THAT EGYPT HAS NOT FULLY UNDERSTOOD AND ABSORBED THESE CHANGES. HE SAID THAT BASIC EGYPTIAN PREMISE OF NEED TO LIBERATE EGYPTIAN TERRITORY IS SOUND STARTING POINT, BUT EGYPT MUST NOW REEXAMINE THE MEANS WHICH IT CAN MOBILIZE TO ACHIEVE THIS OBJECTIVE IN THE THREE AREAS OF CONFRONTATION MENTIONED ABOVE. HE ASKED THE ASU CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND THE CONGRESS TO DISCUSS THIS PROBLEM AND PREPARE A REPORT FOR THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE WHICH HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL SEPTEMBER. THE REPORT SHOULD COVER THE NEXT 20 TO 30 YEARS.

6. COMMENT: FROM SADAT'S ANGRY PUBLIC REACTION, WE CONCLUDE THAT HE WILL INSTRUCT ZAYYAT TO AIM FOR RESOLUTION AT SECURITY COUNCIL WHICH WILL ISOLATE US AND ISRAEL, BUT PICK UP MAXIMUM NUMBER OF AFFIRMATIVE VOTES FROM OTHER MEMBERS OF COUNCIL. IT ALSO APPEARS THAT WE MAY BE IN FOR ANOTHER PERIOD OF DETERIORATING BILATERAL RELATIONS. THIS MAY HAVE EFFECT OF REVERSING SOME RECENT INDICATIONS OF IMPROVED COMMERCIAL AND

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CULTURAL RELATIONS BETWEEN EGYPT AND THE UNITED STATES.
WE ALSO CONCLUDE SADAT WILL INTENSIFY EFFORTS TO EXTEND
EGYPTIAN INFLUENCE IN SAUDI ARABIA AND OTHER ARAB STATES
BOTH TO OBTAIN MORE FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND TO EXERT
MORE INFLUENCE ON SAUDIS AND OTHER ARABS TO HARASS US
ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL INTERESTS. IF THE OBJECT OF
OUR SC TACTIC WAS TO FORCE EGYPT TO NEGOTIATE WITH ISRAEL,
WE SEE LITTLE INDICATION FROM THIS SPEECH THAT WE SUCCEEDED.
SADAT'S ANGRY AND DEFIANT REACTION REFLECTS A DETERMINA-
TION TO SPEND MANY YEARS IF NECESSARY TO BUILD THE
NEEDED MILITARY, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL STRENGTH TO
DEAL WITH ISRAEL ON MORE EQUAL TERMS. WHETHER OR NOT
HE SUCCEEDS WILL DEPEND LARGELY ON HOW EFFECTIVE HE IS
IN OBTAINING COOPERATION FROM THE OTHER ARABS. LAST,
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BUT NOT LEAST, ANY POSSIBILITY THAT SADAT MIGHT MOVE
PUBLICLY TOWARDS A MORE OPEN BREAK WITH THE SOVIET UNION,
HAS PROBABLY BEEN INDEFINITELY POSTPONED.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CAIRO02193
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS GREENE
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730717/aaaaamjz.tel
Line Count: 209
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <04-Jan-2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REVOLUTION DAY SPEECH BY SADAT
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, EG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005